

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 23-34, for accepting the drawings filed on 04/16/2001, and for initialing and returning several of the PTO/SB08 forms previously submitted by Applicants. Applicants respectfully request initialed and returned copies of the PTO/SB08's from the 09/16/2005 and 04/30/2004 IDS's that were submitted.

Reconsideration and further examination of the present application is respectfully requested. The Office Action has rejected claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-21, 35-41, and 43-46. Please cancel claims 1-22 and 35-46 without prejudice. Applicants added claims 47-60.

Claim Objections

Claim 12 has been objected to because of an informality concerning the article "the" preceding the word "synchronizing". Claim 12 has been canceled.

Claims 8, 17, 22, and 42 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant added claim 47 that includes all the limitations of claim 8 and the base claim as the previous office action indicated would be allowable. Similarly, Applicant added claim 50 that includes all the limitations of claim 17 and the base claim as the previous office action indicated would be allowable. Claim 54 is claim 22 rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim as the previous office action indicated would be allowable. Applicant added claim 58 that includes all the limitations of claim 42 and the base claim as the previous office action indicated would be allowable.

Claims 48 and 49 are dependent claims 6 and 7, respectively, rewritten to depend on claim 47. Claims 51, 52, and 53 are dependent claims 14, 15, and 16, respectively, rewritten to depend on claim 50. Claims 55, 56, and 57 are claims 19, 20, and 21,

respectively, rewritten to depend on claim 54. Claims 59 and 60 are claims 40 and 41, respectively, rewritten to depend on claim 58.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 13 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,539,034 to Shimosaka (“Shimosaka”). Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,667,324 to Graves (“Graves”). Claims 5 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,667,994 to Farhan (“Farhan”). Claims 2 and 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,542,500 to Jean-Claude (“Jean-Claude”).

Applicants canceled claims 2, 5, 13, 15, 18, 36, and 39.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 35-38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,542,500 to Jean-Claude (“Jean-Claude”). Claims 9 and 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,667,994 to Farhan (“Farhan”). Claims 7, 10-11, 41, and 44-45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farhan. Claims 6 and 40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farhan in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,539,034 to Shimosaka (“Shimosaka”). Claims 8 and 42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farhan in view of Jean-Claude. Claims 12 and 46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farhan in view of Jean-Claude. Claim 14 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimosaka in view of Farhan. Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimosaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,034,974 to Matsuoka

("Matsuoka"). Claims 19 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being as being unpatentable over Matsuoka. Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuoka in view of Jean-Claude.

Applicants canceled claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, 14, 16, 19-21, 35-38, and 40-46.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Invitation for a telephone interview

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 408-720-8300 if there remains any issue with allowance of this case.

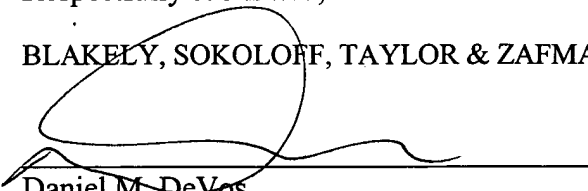
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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